

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of Marcia A. Crone, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas, who was introduced by Senators Hutchison and Cornyn; Phillip S. Figa, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, who was introduced by Senators Campbell and Allard; Carlos T. Bea, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, William Q. Hayes and John A. Houston, both to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, who were all introduced by Senator Boxer; Robert Clive Jones, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nevada, who was introduced by Senators Ensign and Reid; and Ronald A. White, to be United States District Judge for the

Eastern District of Oklahoma, who was introduced by Senator Nickles, after each nominee testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

TERRORISM: FIRST RESPONDERS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security concluded hearings to examine certain measures to improve America's preparedness to address terrorist activity, focusing on the requirements of state and local emergency responders, after receiving testimony from Representatives Cox and Jim Turner; former Senator Rudman, and Richard A. Clarke, both of the Independent Task Force on Emergency Responders; and Paul L. Posner, Managing Director, Federal Budget Issues and Intergovernmental Relations, Strategic Issues, General Accounting Office.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 9 public bills, H.R. 2990–2998; and 6 resolutions, H.J. Res. 67; H. Con. Res. 270, and H. Res. 350, 352–354, were introduced. **Pages H7838–39**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H7839–40**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

Filed on July 30, H.R. 2989, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004 (H. Rept. 108–243);

Filed on August 4, H.R. 1085, to make certain workforce authorities available to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, amended (H. Rept. 108–244, Pt. 1);

Filed on August 4, H.R. 2692, to authorize appropriations for activities under the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 for fiscal years 2004 through 2006, amended (H. Rept. 108–245);

Filed on August 14, H.R. 2608, to reauthorize the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, amended (H. Rept. 108–246, Pt. 1);

H.R. 1837, to improve the Federal acquisition workforce and the process for the acquisition of services by the Federal Government, amended (H. Rept. 108–117, Pt. 2);

H.R. 1985, to amend the National Housing Act to increase the maximum mortgage amount limit for FHA-insured mortgages for multifamily housing located in high-cost areas, amended (H. Rept. 108–247);

H.R. 1533, to amend the securities laws to permit church pension plans to be invested in collective trusts (H. Rept. 108–248);

H. Res. 234, condemning bigotry and violence against Arab-Americans, Muslim-Americans, South Asian-Americans, and Sikh-Americans (H. Rept. 108–249);

H.R. 292, to amend title 4, United States Code, to add National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day to the list of days on which the flag should especially be displayed (H. Rept. 108–250);

H.R. 1658, to amend the Railroad Right-of-Way Conveyance Validation Act to validate additional conveyances of certain lands in the State of California that form part of the right-of-way granted by the United States to facilitate the construction of the transcontinental railway (Private Bill, H. Rept. 108–251);

S. 233, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of Coltsville in the State of Connecticut for potential inclusion in the National Park System (H. Rept. 108–252);

S. 278, to make certain adjustments to the boundaries of the Mount Naomi Wilderness Area (H. Rept. 108–253);

H.R. 1409, to provide for a Federal land exchange for the environmental, educational, and cultural benefit of the American public and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (H. Rept. 108–254);

H.R. 1616, to authorize the exchange of certain lands within the Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site for lands owned by the City of Atlanta, Georgia (H. Rept. 108–255);

H.R. 1651, to provide for the exchange of land within the Sierra National Forest, California, amended (H. Rept. 108–256);

H.R. 2059, to designate Fort Bayard Historic District in the State of New Mexico as a National Historic Landmark (H. Rept. 108–257); and

H.R. 351, providing for consideration of H.R. 2989, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004 (H. Rept. 108–258). **Pages H7837–38**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Schrock to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7791**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Winston E. Arnow Federal Building, Pensacola, Florida: H.R. 1572, amended, to designate the historic Federal District Court Building located at 100 North Palafox Street in Pensacola, Florida, as the “Winston E. Arnow Federal Building”; **Pages H7798–H7800**

Ed Edmondson United States Courthouse, Muskogee, Oklahoma: H.R. 1668, to designate the United States courthouse located at 101 North Fifth Street in Muskogee, Oklahoma, as the “Ed Edmondson United States Courthouse”; **Page H7800**

Congratulating Lance Armstrong: H. Res. 350, congratulating Lance Armstrong for winning the 2003 Tour de France (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 396 yeas with none voting nay, Roll No. 460); **Pages H7800–03, H7809–10**

J. Stephen Horn Post Office, Signal Hill, California: H.R. 2309, amended, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2300 Redondo Avenue in Signal Hill, California, as the “J. Stephen Horn Post Office Building” (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 395 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 461); and **Pages H7803–07, H7810**

Amending Securities Laws: H.R. 1533, to amend the securities laws to permit church pension plans to be invested in collective trusts (agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 397 yeas with none voting nay, Roll No. 462). **Pages H7808–09, H7810–11**

Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act Motions to Instruct Conferees: Representative Cooper announced his intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1308, Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act. **Pages H7811–12**

Recess: The House recessed at 3:28 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H7809**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appears on pages H7791–92.

Senate Referrals: S. 523 was referred to the Committee on Resources; S. 926 and S. Con. Res 25 were referred to the Committee on Government Reform; S. 1547 was referred to the committee on Energy & Commerce; S. 1571 was referred to the Committee on Financial Services; and S. Con. Res 63, S. 678, and S. 929 were ordered held at the desk. **Page H7826**

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H7840–42.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Committee Meetings

“BLACKOUT 2003: HOW DID IT HAPPEN AND WHY?”

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Held a hearing entitled “Blackout 2003: How Did It Happen and Why?” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Energy: Spencer Abraham, Secretary; and Patrick Wood, Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; the following officials of the State of Ohio: Bob Taft, Governor; and Alan R. Schriber, Chairman, Public Utilities Commission; the following officials of the State of Michigan: Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor; Kwame Kilpatrick, Mayor, Detroit; and J. Peter Lark, Chairman, Public Service Commission; William M. Flynn, Chairman, Public Service Commission, State of New York; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, an open rule providing 1 hour of general debate on H.R. 2989, Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2004. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. Under the rules of the House the bill shall be read for amendment by paragraph. The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI (prohibiting unauthorized appropriations or legislative provisions in an appropriations bill), except as specified in the resolution. The rule authorizes the Chair to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Istook, Flake, Olver, Hastings of Florida, Delahunt, Hooley of Oregon, Davis of Florida and Ruppertsberger.

Joint Meetings

DUTCH LEADERSHIP OF OSCE

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): Commission concluded hearings to examine and review Dutch leadership of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), focusing on multilateralism and regional matters, after receiving testimony from Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, Foreign Minister of The Netherlands, Amsterdam.